

Message Text

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TAGS: PINS, UY, US

SUBJECT: COMMENTS ON LEFEVER ARTICLE RE " STATE OF SIEGE"

USIA/ ILA FOR OGLESBY

1. WITH SOME MINOR EXCEPTIONS, WE CONSIDER LEFEVER TEXT COMMENTING ON " STATE OF SIEGE" TO BE GENERALLY ACCURATE. HOWEVER, WE SUGGEST THAT ARTICLE BE SHORTENED BY REDUCING SECTIONS RELATED TO THE GENERAL INTERNAL SECURITY SITUATION AT TIME OF MITRIONE'S DEATH, AS WELL AS GOU ORGANIZATION AND ACTIVITIES IN THIS FIELD. WE SUGGEST THAT MAIN THRUST OF ARTICLE SHOULD BE ON MITRIONE RATHER THAN DEFENSE OF THE GOU.

2. FOLLOWING ARE OUR SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS FOR MODIFICATION OF LEFEVER TEXT:

A) SOME MENTION SHOULD BE MADE OF MLN MURDER OF INNOCENT BY- STANDERS, SUCH AS DURING PANDO RAID OF 1969, AND KILLING OF FARM WORKER WHO STUMBLED ONTO MLN HIDEOUT IN PAN DE AZUCAR, PLUS FACT THAT WITNESSES TO MLN CRIMES WERE THREATENED WITH DEATH AND SUFFERED REPRISALS (ONE WAS SUBSEQUENTLY MURDERED) FOR PROVIDING POLICE WITH INFORMATION.

B) LAST PARA, PAGE 7 - SUGGEST SOME MENTION BE MADE OF MLN INTIMIDATION OF JUDICIAL OFFICIALS AND FACT THAT CONVICTED
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TERRORISTS WERE FREQUENTLY RELEASED FROM JAIL AFTER SERVING SHORT SENTENCES OF FEW MONTHS BECAUSE OF SUCH INTIMIDATION.

C) FIRST LINE, PAGE 9 - IT WAS THEN- PRESIDENT PACHECO, NOT PARLIAMENT, WHO INVOKED " EMERGENCY SECURITY MEASURES". IN SAME PARA, INDIVIDUAL CIVIL GUARANTEES UNDER ARTICLE 31 OF CONSTITUTION WERE SUSPENDED FOR BRIEF PERIOD BY PARLIAMENT ON AUGUST 10, 1970, IN RESPONSE TO MITRIONE MURDER. THIS SUSPENSION WAS VOTED TO ASSIST POLICE IN THEIR SEARCH FOR MITRIONE MURDERERS.

D) FIRST PARA, PAGE 11 - IN ADDITION TO THOSE KILLED ON APRIL 14, 1972, THREE POLICEMEN WERE ALSO WOUNDED SAME DAY (ONE OF WHOM LATER DIED FROM WOUNDS) AND ACOSTA Y LARA' S WFIE WAS ALSO WOUNDED IN ATTACK WHICH KILLED HER HUSBAND.

E) OAST PARA, PAGE 11 - MLN ITSELF RECOGNIZED THAT POLICE GENERALLY REACTED WITHIN LEGAL NORMS IN HANDLING OF TERRORIST SUSPECTS. IN MLN' S OWN " MANUAL OF INTERROGATIONS", IT IS STATED THAT " OLIGARCHY MUST STAY WITHIN LEGAL FORMALITIES IN THEIR QUESTIONING, ALTHOUGH THEY MAY TRY SAVAGE METHODS BECAUSE THEY ARE A REPRESSIVE FORCE". MLN MANUAL GOES ON TO ADVISE MEMBERS OF THEIR RIGHTS TO CONSULT LEGAL COUNCIL, TO BE BROUGHT BEFORE A JUDGE, ETC.

F) LAST PARA, PAGE 12 - REFERENCE TO STATEMENT BY SENATOR VASCONCELLOS SHOULD BE DELETED BECAUSE HE MADE SUCH COMMENT TO US IN CONFIDENCE. SUGGEST THAT THE PHRASE " A LEADING COMMITTEE MEMBER " BE SUBSTITUTED.

G) PARA TWO, PAGE 17 - CONFESSED MURDERERS OF MITRIONE NOW ADMIT KILLING HIM AT APPROXIMATELY 9:30 P. M. AUGUST 9, 1970. SINCE THREE POSSIBLE TIMES OF DEATH HAVE BEEN RAISED, SUGGEST MODIFYING THIS PARAGRAPH ACCORDINGLY. IN FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH, SAME PAGE, IT MIGHT BE NOTED THAT WHILE MITRIONE' S BODY SHOWED NO VISIBLE SIGNS OF TORTURE, HE NEVERTHELESS SUBJECTED TO INTENSE INTERROGATION WHILE SUFFERING FROM A GUNSHOT WOUND.

H) PARA THREE, PAGE 24 - SUGGEST SENTENCE BEGINNING " TWO AID PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISERS" SHOULD BE MODIFIED TO REPLACE " DEAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WITH THE CRISIS" WITH " ASSIST IN THE INVESTIGATION".

I) PARA THREE, PAGE 25 - SUGGEST THE PHRASE BEGINNING " WAS IN REAL LIFE" BE MODIFIED WITH NEW SENTENCE " HIS NEAREST APPROXIMATION IN REAL LIFE WAS CAPT. JUAN MARIA LUCAS, A SECTION CHIEF IN POLICE INTELLIGENCE WHO WAS SHOT IN THE UPPER BACK BY THE " TUPAMAROS" ON THE NIGHT OF JANUARY 2, 1970. HIS

15- YEAR OLD DAUGHTER WAS SHOT BY THE TERRORISTS AS SHE RAN FOR
HELP".

J) PARA TWO, PAGE 28 - BENITEZ WAS A POLICE LIEUTENANT, NOT
COMMISSIONER.

K) PARA ONE, PAGE 29 - EIGHT RATHER THAN FIVE URUGUAYAN
POLICE OFFICERS HAD TAKEN THIS COURSE AS OF MID-1970.
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